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David Do, Director



Muriel Bowser, Mayor

## MOAPIA Update Newsletter

Agency Updates, Events and Announcements, Career Connections, and more from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (MOAPIA)

### A Message from the Director

Dear Community Members,

Next week, a new month begins. March has many celebrations: Pi Day, St. Patrick's Day, and even Make Your Own Holiday Day! More importantly, March is officially recognized as Women's History Month. Every year, the [National Women's History Project](#) selects a group of influential women to honor. This year's theme is "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government." The objective is to pay tribute to the women who have played a role in shaping "America's history and its future through their public service and government leadership."



This year, a member of the District's AAPI community is being honored! Karen Narasaki is known for being a civil rights activist and lobbyist. She is the former president and executive director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering AAPIs and increasing their access to democracy by providing translation services and educating the community on current political issues and elections. In 2014, President Obama appointed Karen Narasaki to serve as Commissioner on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. The National Women's History Project has chosen to recognize Karen Narasaki because of her dedication to the AAPI community and her focus on affirmative action, hate crime prevention, and increasing the media representation of AAPIs.

As we finish up the month of February, some community activities to look out for are the

Budget Engagement Forums that Mayor Bowser is holding this week. These forums are a way for residents to voice their priorities and I strongly encourage you to attend. The forum dates and locations are below:

- [Thursday, February 25](#) at Roosevelt Senior High School
- [Saturday, February 27](#) at the Department of Employment Services
- [Monday, February 29](#) at King Greenleaf Recreation Center

I hope to see you at the forums and don't forget to show appreciation for the women in your life, whether it's your mom, sister, significant other, or friend!

Warm Regards,

David Do

Director, DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

## MOAPIA News

### MOAPIA Welcomes New Staff and Interns!

#### **Soojin Ku, Community Outreach Assistant**

Soojin Ku joined MOAPIA on February 22, 2016 as its newest Community Outreach Assistant. Until recently, she worked with the Council of Korean Americans to ensure the voice of the community was shared and heard. With her experiences and passion to help strengthen the AAPI community, she will be working with on wage related and other case assistance issues at MOAPIA. Ms. Ku holds both a Bachelor and Master's degree in International Studies from University of Washington (11') and Yonsei Graduate School of International Studies (15').



Feel free to say hello at [soojin.ku@dc.gov](mailto:soojin.ku@dc.gov)!

#### **Nathan Choe, Outreach Intern**

Hi, I'm Nathan Choe. I am currently a senior-year student at Stevenson University in Owings Mills, Baltimore. I am majoring in Criminal Justice and graduate in the spring of 2016. My studies and experiences in Criminal Justice have not only taught me a lot about law enforcement, courts and corrections, but

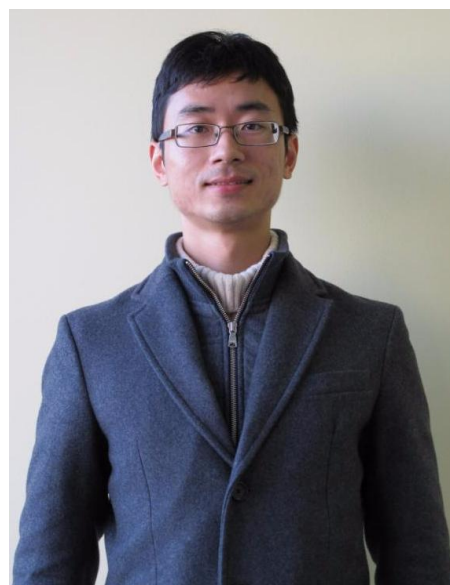


it has also educated me on the significance and implications with policy making. Policy making and enforcement are actions that require strong leadership, an organized mind, and a compassionate heart. These are just a few of the traits that I hope to hone while interning for the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (MOAPIA).

My experiences here with MOAPIA will undoubtedly help me with my future plans to teach English in South Korea. I hope that I can continuously grow with my education and experiences and I truly look forward to my time with this office.

## Jason Gao, Outreach Intern

I'm Jason Gao from Eastern China, and I'm a 2016 Spring intern for MOAPIA. I moved to the U.S. to study international relations and political science three years ago, and received advanced training of professional policy analysis and campaign skills in my graduate school. Before joining MOAPIA, I worked for a Chinese American organization which focuses on empowering new Chinese immigrants and strengthening the US-China relationship through people to people communication. This work triggered my interest in issues related to race, empirical study of the Asian American community, communitarian liberalist theories, and last but not least, American politics.



This internship will help me gain some insight on how the government could respond to constituent needs and provide me with the skills necessary for a possible governmental career.



## Kevin Kim, Outreach Intern

My name is Kevin Kim and I am a current freshman studying at New York University. I was born in Boston, Massachusetts and was raised in Buffalo, New York and Irvine, California. I am in the Liberal Studies Program, spending my first year of college at the NYU Washington DC campus. My intended major is International Relations, with a minor in Media and Communications. I am passionate about Asian-American issues and believe in the proper representation of members within the Asian and Pacific Islander Community.

Through my time here at MOAPIA, I hope to gain experience representing the Asian and Pacific Islander Community and look forward to learning more about the local government. Specifically, I believe this internship would prepare me for my intended career working with the United Nations.

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## 2/29 - Asian Pacific Islander LGBTQ Task Force Meeting



Monday, **February 29** | 6:30 pm  
Reeves Municipal Center (2000 14th St NW, Community Room)  
Metro: U Street (Green/Yellow Line)

Please join MOAPIA and the Mayor's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Affairs at the next Asian Pacific Islander LGBTQ Task Force Meeting. At this meeting we'll discuss planning for the LGBT month as issues affecting AAPI LGBT community.

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## 3/15 & 3/17 - AAF Implementation Meetings





Last September, MOAPIA hosted a successful Asian American and Pacific Islander Action Forum (AAF) to solicit feedback from the AAPI community on issues we can address and solve. Now, we need your help again to finalize our AAF Implementation Plan. Come learn how you can continue to be involved and contribute to make the AAPI community better at one of our two meetings!

**Light fare and beverages will be provided.**

Dates:

Tuesday, **March 15** | 7 - 9 pm (To RSVP for this meeting, click [here](#))

Thursday, **March 17** | 7 - 9 pm (To RSVP for this meeting, click [here](#))

Location:

One Judiciary Square

441 4th St NW, Room 1117

Metro: Judiciary Square (Red Line)

For questions or to request reasonable accommodations, please call (202) 727-3120.

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## March - Weekly Tai Chi Classes

MOAPIA is offering weekly Tai Chi classes at the Kennedy Recreation Center starting in March. Join us for this fun exercise to loosen up your body and mind!

Wednesdays, 11 am - 12 pm

Kennedy Recreation Center

1407 7th St NW, Washington DC 20001

For more information, email us at [oapia@dc.gov](mailto:oapia@dc.gov) or call (202) 727-3120.

# TAI CHI CLASS

**FREE AND OPEN TO PUBLIC**

**Kennedy Recreation Center**  
1401 7th St NW, Washington, DC 20001

Meeting location: Outside open area next to the playground  
(\*Will be held in the multipurpose room when there is inclement weather)



Community members doing Tai Chi at Shaw Community Day event in November 2015.

## MARCH 2016 Class Schedule

Wed, 3/2, 11 AM - 12 PM  
Wed, 3/9, 11 AM - 12 PM  
Wed, 3/16, 11 AM - 12 PM  
Wed, 3/30, 11 AM - 12 PM

Note: No class on 3/23



### What is Tai Chi?

Tai Chi is a Chinese martial arts form that offers fun and gentle exercise for the body and mind. It's an enjoyable way to improve mobility, balance and overall well-being.



For more information, email us at [oapia@dc.gov](mailto:oapia@dc.gov) or call (202)-727-3120.

## Events and Announcements

### 2/25 - 2/29 - Mayor Bowser's Budget Engagement Forums

Starting next week, residents will have another opportunity to have a seat at the table. Mayor Muriel Bowser is hosting three Budget Engagement Forums to collect input on how to shape her administration's priorities for the coming year and to determine where to invest resources in the next fiscal year budget.

Sign up for one of the following forums:

- [Thursday, February 25](#) at Roosevelt Senior High School
- [Saturday, February 27](#) at the Department of Employment Services
- [Monday, February 29](#) at King Greenleaf Recreation Center



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR**

## BUDGET ENGAGEMENT FORUMS

Mayor Bowser will host a series of three Budget Engagement Forums throughout the District in February. The Administration's Budget Engagement Forums are open to all DC residents. The forums are designed as interactive discussions where DC residents can provide input to help shape priorities.

### Thursday, February 25th

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Theodore Roosevelt Senior High School

4301 13th Street, NW

Register here: <http://bit.ly/219i7SL>

### Saturday, February 27th

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Department of Employment Services

4058 Minnesota Avenue, NE

Register here: <http://bit.ly/1oriudD>

### Monday, February 29th

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

King Greenleaf Recreation Center

201 N Street, SW

Register here: <http://bit.ly/2o2T3Rv>



## 2/27 - The DC Streetcar is Coming!

The DC Streetcar will begin passenger service on Feb. 27th. RSVP for the grand opening [here](#).

Saturday, **February 27** | 10:00 am  
13th Street between Wylie Street and H Street, NE



## 2/28 - Made in the USA: Chinese Food in America

There are over 41,000 Chinese restaurants in the U.S. Join Cedric Yeh and Noriko Sanefuji, curators of Smithsonian's *Sweet Sour* exhibition, for a discussion on the history of Chinese restaurants and food in America, from immigrant-only destinations and exotic cuisine to everyday fixtures in American life. Maybe you'll also find out who is General Tso is...

Sunday, **February 28** | 1:30 - 3:30 pm



**Talk Story Events**



**Made in the USA:  
Chinese Food  
in America**

There are over 41,000 Chinese restaurants in the United States. Join **Cedric Yeh** and **Noriko Sanefuji**, curators of Smithsonian's *Sweet Sour* exhibit, in a talk about the history of Chinese restaurants and food in America, from immigrant-only destinations and exotic cuisine to everyday fixtures in American life. ...and, by the way, who is General Tso?

**When:** Sunday, February 28, 2016, 1:30 to 3:30 PM

**Where:** Chinese Community Church, 500 I (Eye) Street NW  
Chinatown, Washington DC

free, casual, welcome to all

1882 FOUNDATION ADVOCATE

## 3/9 - Standing with our Muslim Neighbors: A Workshop for Allies in DC

Join the Office of Human Rights for a panel discussion with diverse Muslim faith and community leaders to better understand the Muslim faith, the experiences of Muslim DC residents, and how to be effective allies to the Muslim community.

RSVP online at [allyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://allyworkshop.eventbrite.com)

Wednesday, **March 9** | 6:00 - 8:00 pm  
Old Council Chambers (441 4th St NW)





## Standing with our Muslim Neighbors: *A Workshop for Allies in DC*

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

6pm - 8pm

441 4th Street NW, DC - Old Council Chambers

Join us for a free panel discussion with diverse Muslim faith and community leaders to better understand the Muslim faith, the experiences of Muslim DC residents, and how to be effective allies to the Muslim community. Attendees will leave the training with concrete steps they can take to counter Islamophobia and increase mutual understanding and respect in the District.

RSVP online at [allyworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://allyworkshop.eventbrite.com)

#StandWithDCMuslims

Presented by



In partnership with



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## 3/12 - Foraging for Life, Love, and the Perfect Meal

Ava Chin, the "Urban Forager," was raised in Queens, New York, by a single mother and loving grandparents. *Eating Wildly* examines family ties, romantic failures and self-discovery while revealing a world of edible/medicinal plants, with recipes and culinary information, to stir emotions and enliven taste buds - "a moving memoir about the importance of family, relationships, and food." - Review by Simon & Schuster

Saturday, **March 12** | 1:00 - 3:30 pm

Chinese Community Church (500 I Street NW)



## Talk Story Event

### FORAGING FOR LIFE, LOVE AND THE PERFECT MEAL

Author and urban forager Ava Chin explores the writing and meaning of *Eating Wildly*, a food kit and memoir.

**When:** Saturday, March 12, 2016,  
1:00 to 3:00 PM

**Where:** Chinese Community Church  
500 I (Eye) Street NW, Chinatown,  
Washington DC

*"I often tagged along with my grandparents down the aisles of Chinese supermarkets. ...Grandpa knew the secrets of the dried, preserved goods and vegetables tucked away into the stores' dusty corners. ...I'm not sure how Grandpa knew what he knew—whether his parents had taught him or he'd learned from the cooks at the restaurant—but I just chalked it up to his being more inherently Chinese than I was and that somehow the knowledge came with the territory. ...I followed my grandfather over to another bin."*

Ava Chin, the "Urban Forager," was raised in Queens, New York, by a single mother and loving grandparents. *Eating Wildly* examines family ties, romantic failures and self-discovery while revealing a world of edible/medicinal plants, with recipes and culinary information, to stir emotions and enliven taste buds—"a moving memoir about the importance of family, relationships, and food," —review by Simon & Schuster.



**Talk Story Events** are monthly community gatherings in DC Chinatown to share stories and fellowship about Chinese American history, culture and identity. They are free, casual and open to all. Sponsored by the 1882 Foundation, Chinese American Citizens Alliance and OCA-Asian American Advocates with the Chinatown Service Center, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and the Chinatown Community and Culture Center. RSVP and info: [figsing@aol.com](mailto:figsing@aol.com) or [stangibkum@yahoo.com](mailto:stangibkum@yahoo.com).



1882 FOUNDATION



## Nominate a Champion of Change for AAPI Art and Storytelling

As part of this year's Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, the [White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders](#) and the White House will honor **Champions of Change for AAPI Art and Storytelling** who have raised the visibility of diverse AAPI experiences and created dialogue around issues the community faces.

Artists and advocates, through their unique channels and distinct platforms, have played a critical role in telling powerful stories, increasing awareness around key AAPI issues, and encouraging diversity and inclusion in all sectors of society. The Champions of Change

program honors individuals doing extraordinary things to empower and inspire members of their communities.

Nominees may include:

- Storytellers who have included and continue to include AAPI characters in their films, television shows, and literature to address pressing issues, including immigration, civil rights, economic opportunity, health, diversity and inclusion, and more;
- Poets and spoken word artists who highlight AAPI experiences in their work in order to advance pressing issues, including immigration, civil rights, economic opportunity, health, diversity and inclusion, and more;
- Musicians who use music as a tool to bring national attention to issues facing the AAPI community, including immigration, civil rights, economic opportunity, health, diversity and inclusion, and more.

Please check out our [Call for Nominations Blog](#) for instructions on nominating a leader in your community. Nominate a Champion of Change by midnight on Wednesday, **March 9, 2016**. Be sure to select "AAPI Art and Storytelling" as your "Theme of Service" on the nomination form. Please don't hesitate to contact [WhiteHouseAAPI@ed.gov](mailto:WhiteHouseAAPI@ed.gov) with subject line "Champions of Change" if you have any questions.

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## Act to Change



Have you been bullied or know someone who has? Been teased for the way you look, what you wear, what you eat, where you're from, how you talk, or other stereotypes? It's not okay. Know that you are not alone and together we can make a difference. Learn about it. Talk about it. Stop it.

Learn more about the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders' campaign "[Act to Change](#)" to address bullying and sign the pledge against bullying today.

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## Announcement from the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation



## Administration

The Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) is in the process of notifying businesses regarding alcoholic beverage licenses that are due for renewal this year. Approximately 1,100 licenses are due to be renewed by March 31, 2016 and about 350 are due by September 30, 2016.

For a complete checklist of what licensees should know for the renewal process, visit ABRA's website [here](#).

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### **ICYMI: Read Fire Chief Dean's article in Sunday's Washington Post about his commitment to transforming DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services.**

Nine months ago, having just retired as chief of the Seattle Fire Department, I arrived in the District, eager to work for D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D), who was looking for a proven leader to reform the D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department.

Upon arriving, I embarked on a six-month process to review and evaluate the department to better understand operations and set a new course for the future. After decades of underinvestment, poor training and a lack of leadership, I knew there would be no easy answers...

To view the full story, click [here](#).

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### **ICYMI: Metro is Going Paperless!**

Metro is going paperless starting next week and will stop accepting paper farecards. Have a paper farecard or Metrochek with value? No problem. You can transfer money to your SmarTrip card at any station farecard machine.

For more information, visit [wmata.com/paperless](http://wmata.com/paperless).

## Career Opportunities

### **JOB SPOTLIGHT: DPR Summer Jobs**

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Human Resources Division is currently accepting applications for [Summer 2016 Jobs](#).

DPR's Human Resources offers summer employment opportunities for the following positions at DPR: Aquatics, Camps and Operations. DPR strives to provide high quality recreational programming for youth of all ages that enhances the year-round opportunities available in the District of Columbia.

To get more information, visit DPR's website [here](#).

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## DC Resident Snow Team Recruitment

Mayor Muriel Bowser hopes you can join the DC Resident Snow Team to help our neighbors who need help clearing snow this winter. Our seniors and neighbors with disabilities need help shoveling snow from their front walkways and sidewalks to get to medical appointments and to receive meals in their homes. Volunteer to shovel for a neighbor by signing up at [snowteam.dc.gov](https://snowteam.dc.gov).

## Hands on Hearts CPR Training Program

"Hands on Hearts" is an initiative to provide free CPR and AED awareness training to District residents. When hands-only CPR is performed immediately during cardiac arrest, it may increase the chance of a person's survival. The District is committed to providing residents with the skills needed to help save a life. For more information or to sign up for "Hands on Hearts" CPR training, visit [handsonhearts.dc.gov](https://handsonhearts.dc.gov) or call 311.



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DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs  
[oapia@dc.gov](mailto:oapia@dc.gov) | (202) 727-3120 | [www.apia.dc.gov](http://www.apia.dc.gov)

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